

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

*Dockets*  
*222*

DEC 3 1993

IN REPLY REFER TO:

CN9304563

Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
United States Senate  
135 Hart Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20510-1501

RECEIVED

DEC 3 1993

*93-253*

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Senator Grassley:

This responds to your letter of November 5, 1993, addressing the 2 GHz Personal Communications Services (PCS) proceeding, GEN Docket No. 90-314. Your constituent expresses support for a PCS licensing structure that ensures participation by small and rural telephone companies in providing PCS services when licenses are awarded by competitive bidding.

On September 23, 1993, the Commission adopted final rules to govern PCS. The Commission allocated 120 megahertz of spectrum for licensed PCS and adopted licensing areas based upon Basic Trading Areas (BTAs) and Major Trading Areas (MTAs); 60 megahertz of spectrum were allocated for BTAs and 60 megahertz for MTAs. The allocation for MTAs is composed of two 30 megahertz frequency blocks, while the allocation for BTAs is composed of one 20 megahertz frequency block and four 10 megahertz frequency blocks. Local exchange carriers may apply for PCS licenses on the same basis as other applicants.

Consistent with the Omnibus Reconciliation Act, in a companion Notice of Proposed Rule Making, PP Docket No. (93-253) the Commission proposed to award PCS licenses by competitive bidding. The Commission also proposed licensing preferences in one 20 megahertz frequency block and one 10 megahertz frequency block for rural telephone companies, small businesses, and businesses owned by minorities and women.

The Commission's decisions addressing PCS are designed to foster competition among PCS providers and between PCS providers and cellular radio operators and to ensure expeditious provision of PCS in both urban and rural areas. I am enclosing the press releases for the dockets addressed above that more fully describe the Commission's actions.

Sincerely,

*Thomas P. Stanley*

Thomas P. Stanley  
Chief Engineer

Enclosures

No. of Copies rec'd *2 copies*  
List A B C D E

067  
90-314  
4508

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

November 5, 1993

Lauren Belvin  
Director, Legislative Affairs  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 857  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Lauren:

Enclosed please find a letter from one of my constituents who is concerned about the new auction rules as provided in the 1993 Budget Act. A number of small telephone companies are requesting equal treatment between their operations and the larger, more wealthy telephone companies.

I would appreciate any assistance you could provide pertaining to this matter. Please mark your return correspondence to the attention of Dawn Latham when responding to my office.

Thank you for your attention to my request.

Sincerely,

  
Charles E. Grassley  
United States Senator

CEG/dl  
Enclosure

The Honorable Charles Grassley  
U.S. Senate  
135 SHOB  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Grassley:

I am writing to ask you to contact Federal Communications Commission Chairman James H. Quello and Commissioners Andrew C. Barrett and Ervin S. Duggan strongly encouraging them to fully achieve the objectives of the recently passed budget reconciliation law by ensuring that small and rural telephone systems are able to provide new services, such as PCS, under an auction regime.

The budget reconciliation law requires the FCC to ensure new technologies are rapidly deployed in rural areas. It also requires that licenses be distributed to a wide variety of applicants, including rural telephone companies.

Small and rural telephone systems are best situated to assure new services and technologies reach rural subscribers. They have a proven track record of delivering state-of-the-art technologies to their subscribers in rural America. Please urge the FCC to ensure that we can continue to do so.

Very truly yours,